

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 181210Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5447

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T TEHRAN 1320

EXDIS

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, OREP, IR

SUBJECT: ENERGY: OIL PRICES

REF: A. TEHRAN 0045

B. TEHRAN 0437 (NOTAL)

1. DURING HOUR LONG MEETING WITH CODEL FRELINGHUYSEN ON FEBRUARY 16, MINISTER OF FINANCE AMUZEGAR COVERED IN RAPID-FIRE FASHION THE ESSENTIAL POINTS SET FORTH IN REFTELS. TOWARD THE END OF THE MEETING, AMUZEGAR TOLD FRELINGHUYSEN THAT HE WAS FREE TO USE THIS MATERIAL IN ANY WAY HE DESIRED BECAUSE AMUZEGAR FEELS THAT YAMANI'S RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS HAVE VIOLATED THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF OPEC DELIBERATIONS, LEAVING AMUZEGAR FREE TO STATE HIS SIDE OF THE CASE.

2. AMUZEGAR BELIEVES THAT YAMANI HAS QUOTE RUINED HIMSELF UNQUOTE WITH THE OTHER ARAB REPRESENTATIVES IN OPEC BY HIS STATEMENTS ON OIL PRICES. IN FACT, AMUZEGAR IS PERSUADED THAT YAMANI HAS SUCCEEDED IN LABELING HIMSELF PUBLICLY AS A QUOTE AMERICAN STOOGES UNQUOTE AND THAT HE HAS ACHIEVED THE SURPRISING RESULT OF PUSHING ALGERIA, KUWAIT, AND ABU DHABI CLOSER TO IRAN. PUT ANOTHER WAY, SECRET

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THE QUOTE RADICALS UNQUOTE ON CRUDE OIL PRICES MAY WELL BECOME MODERATE AND CLOSER TO IRAN'S POSITION, BECAUSE THEY SEE NO WAY OF AGREEING WITH WHAT YAMANI SAYS PUBLICLY HE DESIRES TO DO.

3. AMUZEGAR GAVE FRELINGHUYSEN SOME INSIGHT INTO HOW
IRAN INTENDS TO ASSIST THE LDC'S. HE SAYS THAT IRAN WILL
NOT GIVE GRANTS IN AID, BECAUSE THE IRANIAN GOVERN-
MENT BELIEVES THAT RECIPIENTS OF HANDOUTS COME TO RESENT
THEM BITTERLY IN THE LONG RUN. WHAT IRAN WANTS TO DO
IS TO GIVE SOFT LOANS AT LOW INTEREST RATES FOR DEVELOPMET OF
NATURAL RESOURCES WHERE POSSIBLE. HE CITES INDIA AS AN EXAMPLE.
HERE IRAN INTENDS TO MAKE MONEY AVAILABLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
AND MINING OF COAL AND IRON ORE IN GREATER QUANTITIES FOR SALE
TO IRAN.
HELMS

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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